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OBAMA SAYS 'I DO' TO GAY MARRIAGE

- For the first time in history, a president openly supports allowing gay couples to wed {page 08}
- Gay community in Philly applauds statement, even if political
- Santorum disagrees {page 02}

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In the news

Woman killed at her home in North Philly

Police have identified the woman whose body was found in her North Philadelphia home Tuesday night. Lavonne Thrones-Johnson, 52, of the 2200 block of North Gratz Street, was pronounced dead shortly before 11 p.m. She had been beaten in the head with an unknown object, police said. METRO/AW

In the news

Three down

Police arrested a man yesterday for allegedly murdering three people in North Philadelphia during a quadruple shooting last year. Arlando Pickett, 25, of the 6800 block of Algard Street in Wissinoming, is charged with allegedly gunning down Duane Talley, 36, Craig Lassiter, 38, and Mashanda English, 33, police said. Police said at the time that, based on the number of shell casings, they believed an assault rifle was used. METRO/AW

Pro and con: Obama out for marriage equality

Malcolm Lazin, executive director of Equality Forum
"This is a historic moment when a president of the United States supports same-sex marriage. It's a watershed ... . When the president uses his bully pulpit it carries weight."

Alaina Hummel, bartender at Woody's
"I was very pleased when I saw that today. I was afraid because it was election year he wasn't going to take a stand for it to play it safe, but I'm glad he did."

Rick Santorum, former presidential candidate
"President Obama has consistently fought against protecting the institution of marriage from radical social engineering. ... The charade is now over, no doubt an attempt to galvanize his hard-left supporters."

John McCade, patron at Woody's
"I think it's politics, it's strategic. I think he's never been anti-gay until he ran for president because he had to be. I think, with Biden saying what he said, he kind of forced the issue. Biden outed him."

News in brief

Announced: New chief for city L&I

CITY HALL. Mayor Michael Nutter announced that Deputy Streets Commissioner Carlton Williams will become the new Commissioner of Licenses and Inspections when Fran Burns leaves this summer to head up the Philadelphia Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority.

"Though a great innovator is stepping down, another one will replace her," Nutter said. Williams currently oversees the Streets Department's spring cleanups, helped institute the city's anti-litter campaign and played an instrumental role in expanding recycling.

Williams said he will make public safety and code enforcements two chief priorities. METRO/AW

Suspect in U. City holdups nabbed

WEST PHILADELPHIA. Police arrested a man for multiple robberies at the Green Line Cafe and Chipotle.

Torin Myer, 23, of Baring Street, is charged with armed robberies of the Green Line Cafe on the 4400 block of Locust Street April 26, April 30 and May 4 and a May 6 robbery of Chipotle on Lancaster Avenue.

Detectives met with the Drexel Police Department Monday and gave out surveillance stills. A Drexel police captain saw a man fitting his description. METRO/AW

Free rides? In '11, ambulances cost city $50M

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Ambulance rides aren't free, though the city doesn't collect for many rides.

In the midst of eking out a city budget at a time when dollars are scant, Philadelphia is owed almost $50 million in emergency services fees billed by the fire department during fiscal year 2011, a report released yesterday by City Controller Alan Butkovitz has found.

While the fire department's services are paid for through taxes, the fees are an attempt to reimburse them for expenditures such as oxygen delivered to sick patients and diesel fuel mileage when they make an emergency run, Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers said.

Still, the revenue first goes into the city's general fund and is doled out to departments through the administration. "We are in favor of collecting any legitimate taxes or fees due to the city," said Ray Vozzelli of firefighter and paramedic's union Local 22. "I just wish it would go into the fire department itself."

But Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers said that the department is working to improve its revenue collection even further. "We've increased our ability to collect and catch insurance information by training all our members on new tablets we received and new software has been introduced so we can be more efficient in data collection and cut more costly, unnecessary runs," he said. "We're doing all the things to support better revenue coming in and not support spending money on runs we don't have to go to."

He said the department will also be looking at charging fees for additional services, like auto accidents and hazmat spills. "There's a list of things, and a group associated with our new vendor will be taking a look at those things to say exactly what we can, can't, should, will and won't charge for."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Flatlined

The department had a collection rate of 42 percent last year, nearly the same as in 2006, despite efforts aimed at increasing revenue like raising life support fees by nearly 100 percent and choosing a new EMS patient billing vendor. "The collection rate remained virtually unchanged during this five year period, leaving millions of dollars on the table and not collected," Butkovitz said in a statement.

By the numbers

19 cents
Total collected out of every dollar charged by Fire Department EMS runs in which advanced life support services is needed, Butkovitz found.

$97M
Potential revenue that the Fire Department was unable collect due to state or federal limits on the amount of reimbursements the city can accept from some insurance carriers or due to inaccurate or incomplete billing information obtained by workers.

$34.4M
EMS user fees collected by the Fire Department last year out of a total of $82.5 million billed.

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Ride the Ducks tragedy settled for $17 million

U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS TIM MILLER

▶ Two of 35 tourists didn't make it out of the river.

Twenty-three months since a catastrophe on the Delaware River just off Penns Landing left two Hungarian tourists dead, a huge settlement between operators of the Ride the Duck tourism vehicles and the city-contracted tug boats and the families of Dora Schwendtner,16, and Szabolcs Prem, 20 was reached, according to a spokesman for the families' attorney.

The terms of the $17 million settlement were reached this afternoon on what would have been the third day of the civil trial, which began with the families fighting an effort by both Ride the Ducks and K-Sea Transportation (the tug boat owner) to cap liability for the deaths.

"The families are deeply grateful to the Court for recognizing that their children were important and did not deserve to die in vain," one of the families' attorneys, Robert Mongeluzzi, said in a statement. "While their suffering continues, they have renewed hope ... that stricter regulations on cell phone use and tourist-boat operating procedures might avert similar catastrophes on and off the water."

The first mate of the tug boat, which was navigating a city barge upriver when it crushed a duck boat in June 2010, is already serving a federal prison sentence. He used his cell phone numerous times while operating the tug because of a family emergency.

But lawyers for the Hungarian families argued all along that the mate wasn't solely responsible for the catastrophe and deaths.

"This case illustrated in graphic, chilling detail what happens when safety rules and regulations are not enforced," another family attorney, Andrew Duffy, said.

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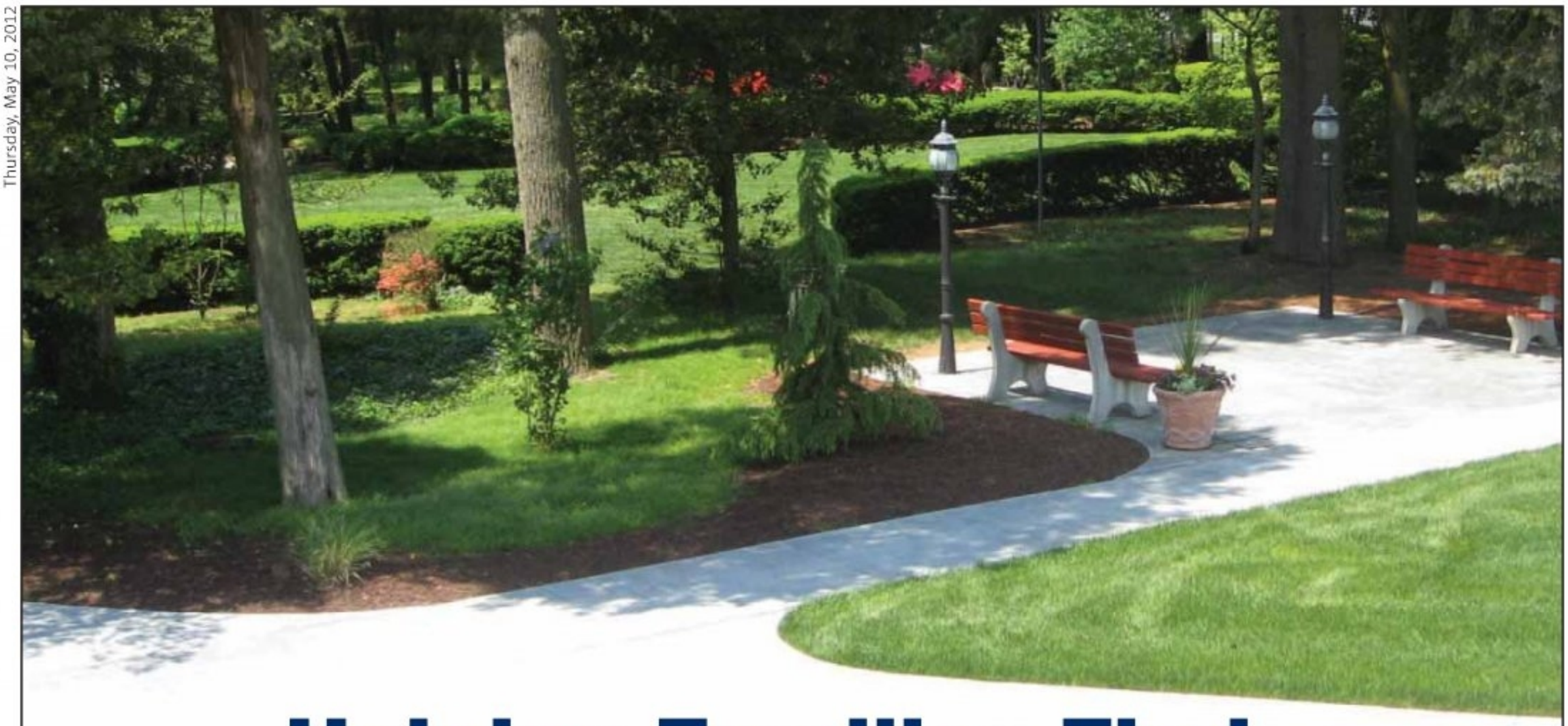

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Sabina's killer gets life to ponder 'terrible actions'

Jury knew 'right from beginning' Young waitress raped, murdered in 2010 near her home off Girard Ave.

RICARD LARMA/METRO

Sabina O'Donnell's stepfather, Mark Rounds, said "justice was done," but "not for Sabina."

A guilty verdict was handed down yesterday to 20-year-old Donte Johnson, on trial for the rape and murder of 20-year-old Sabina Rose O'Donnell near Fourth Street and Girard Avenue in Northern Liberties two years ago.

"We mapped out all the evidence," said jury foreman Charles Ramirez outside the Criminal Justice Center after he and others deliberated for about three and half hours over two days. "It was a clear-cut case. ... We were all unanimous, right from the beginning." He cited blood and DNA evidence, surveillance footage showing what appears to be Johnson following Sabina before her death and the location of her body as particularly compelling pieces of the puzzle.

"It was a clear-cut case. ... We were all unanimous, right from the beginning."
CHARLES RAMIREZ, JURY FOREMAN

"(The defense), they just talked about jargon, psychological and technical talk, not about the case," he said. Though he reportedly maintained his innocence before the judge, Johnson is charged with rape and first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Sabina's stepfather Mark Rounds, who tearfully hugged jurors outside the courtroom, said that he was not a fan of the death penalty and was satisfied with the sentence. "I hope the rest of society is happy as well," he said.

District Attorney Seth Williams said in a statement that "at only 20 years old Donte Johnson will now have to spend the rest of his life behind bars dealing with the consequences of his terrible actions."

When asked if justice was served, Rounds paused. "Not to Sabina," he said. "Justice was done to Donte Johnson."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

Didn't buy defense

Defense attorneys claimed Johnson had the intelligence of a grade-schooler and questioned DNA evidence.

- But a jury quickly and unanimously found that he trailed O'Donnell while she was riding home from a friend's house, strangled her to death with her bra in a vacant lot near her Northern Liberties apartment and stole her bike.
- Her partially-clothed body was found early the next morning.
- Johnson told police that he followed her with the intention of stealing her bicycle, but during the robbery, "things got out of hand," according to the district attorney's office.

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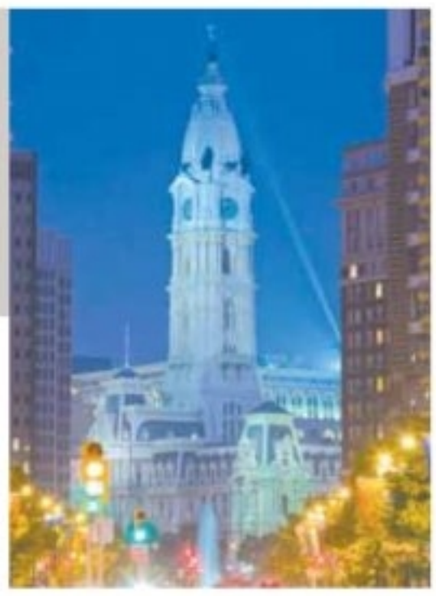

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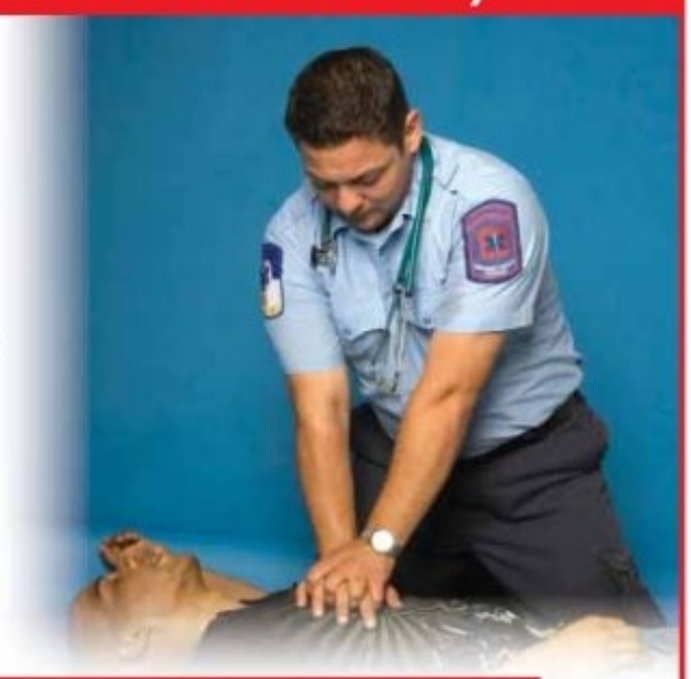

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Obama is first president to support gay marriage

In an historic announcement, President Barack Obama said yesterday he believes same-sex couples should be allowed to marry, taking a stand on a divisive issue that is likely to please his political base and upset conservative voters.

"It is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same-sex couples should be able to get married," Obama said in an interview with ABC's Robin Roberts.

Obama's comments came three days after Vice President Joe Biden said in a television interview that he was comfortable with gay marriage, and one day after North Carolina voters amended that state's constitution to ban it.

The comments made Obama the first American president to publicly express his support for gay marriage.

Pressure had built on the Democrat president to clarify his views after Biden and other Cabinet members spoke out in favor of allowing gays and lesbians to wed — a touchy topic in a year in which Obama's race against Republican Mitt Romney in the Nov. 6 election is expected to be close.

ABC said Obama described his views as personal and still believed that U.S. states should be able to decide on the issue. Romney opposes same-sex marriage but supports hospital visitation rights and other domestic partnership benefits for gay and lesbian couples.

A Gallup poll released earlier this week indicated that half of Americans believe same-sex couples should have the same right to wed as heterosexuals while 48 percent do not. Gallup said the results "underscore just how divided the nation is on this issue.".

Obama, who ended the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that prevented gays from serving openly in the military, said watching members of his staff who are in committed same-sex relationships and thinking about "soldiers or airmen or marines or sailors who are out there fighting on my behalf and yet feel constrained" had affected his thinking. **REUTERS**

LESLIE E. KOSSOFF-POOL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ President Barack Obama made a shift in his evolving position on the issue that is likely to please his political base.

NC bans it

North Carolina voters approved a state constitutional amendment that bans same-sex marriage and civil unions, dealing a blow to efforts across the United States to expand gay marriage rights.

News in brief

'Awesome' AOL surprises Wall St.

NEW YORK. AOL Inc. reported better-than-expected quarterly results and said it intends to hand over to shareholders 100 percent of the proceeds from its patent sales to Microsoft.

Earnings blew past Wall Street forecasts, and revenue topped estimates despite lower premium ad sales in the United States.

AOL shares rose 3.6 percent to $26.52 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday after the results.

Needham & Co. analyst Laura Martin described the quarter as "awesome," citing the shareholder return among one of the biggest reasons. **REUTERS**

Michele Bachmann becomes Swiss

WASHINGTON. Republican U.S. Representative Michele Bachmann, a former White House hopeful and a favorite of the conservative Tea Party movement, has a new political option: She can run for office in Switzerland.

Bachmann, whose husband is Swiss, recently activated her right to become a dual U.S.-Swiss citizen along with three of their five children.

"Congresswoman Bachmann's husband is of Swiss descent so she has been eligible for dual-citizenship since they got married in 1978," said Bachmann's press secretary Becky Rogness. **REUTERS**

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- Millions of images will be collected to document our times and send out a 'planetary message for the future'

A day to capture for generations to come

On Tuesday, May 15, Metro readers worldwide are invited to take part for one day in "the largest collaborative photography project in history."

Aday.org asks pro and amateur photographers on one day only this month to take their cameras and capture moments in their daily life. Organizers literally want to get a snapshot of the world we now live in.

"We are encouraging millions to photograph their daily life that will give millions of perspectives for immediate exploration and historic reflection," Ayperi Karabuda Ecer, editor-in-chief of Aday.org, told Metro.

This global event, lauded by luminaries such as Nobel Peace Prize laureate Desmond Tutu and pop artist Robyn, will see millions of images generated for what organizers hope will give a "planetary message for the future."

"This will be an unprecedented mixture of capturing the energy of one single day with preserving it for generations to come," said Ecer, who is vice president of pictures at Reuters and is on sabbatical leave for the Aday.org project.

scoopshot
Your photo, a better world.

Hundreds of Aday.org photo experts, including some 30 World Press Photo winners, now plan what they'll capture on the day.

Photographers must take their images on May 15 and will have one week to upload onto the Aday.org website. The photographs will then be posted on a online database, "an 'exploration center' to view what the world has shot," Ecer says.

"A Day in the World", a book with a thousand images from the project, will be published in November. An exhibition will be screened on outdoor screens in city centers worldwide.

"What's interesting for Metro readers is what their photographic viewpoint of their cities will be and how it'll compare in the future," Ecer adds. METRO WORLD NEWS

JULIEN GOLDSTEIN

▶ For some, it's bedtime — for others, it's fun. But for the Aday.org project, it's an insight into our world we now live in.

What to shoot

Participants are asked to photo around three main categories:

- **HOME.** Anything from mealtimes to your cherished household bric-a-brac
- **WORK.** All matters connected to work, whether it's commuting, office banter or simply doing your job
- **CONNECTIONS.** Think how you connect with generations, identity and technology, as well as community and environment.
- **And how to do it:** "Nobody knows what pictures will be iconic or memorable. Use your own memory as a camera, what do you feel strongly about? If your style is sincere it will have impact," Ecer says.

"An archive of images from all over the world will celebrate both our rich diversity and the very many experiences and aspirations that we all share."
MARY ROBINSON, FORMER PRESIDENT OF IRELAND AND UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

"Take this unique opportunity with me, and thousands of others around the world, to create a priceless collection of images, to enhance research and education."
ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE

60 seconds with ...

'PHOTOS CAN HIDE AND REVEAL REALITY'

Pelle Snickars, head of research at the National Library of Sweden, research advisor on Aday.org's Scientific Research Council

▶ Snickars

There are many image-hosting projects online. What makes Aday.org so special?
Aday.org is all about capturing reality at a certain moment. It's a photographically frozen archive of time to be passed on to future generations. The idea is not to replicate Flickr or the like, but rather try to get people to 'think photographically' about their everyday life, possibly along the line of certain themes.

For you, what's the power of a photograph?
A critic once stated that in a photograph, a person's history is "buried as if under a layer of snow"; photographs capture, hide and reveal things at the same time. Yes, we do live in a culture 'hypersaturated' by images. But usage of digital photography has changed and become way more instrumental than ever (mostly because everyone now has a camera in their smartphone). Almost everyone is still highly fascinated by images. MWN

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THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

Christina's still a fighter

You know "The Voice" has arrived in the world of reality TV when its feuding judges are making more headlines than the contestants. Jermaine Paul may have been crowned the winner Tuesday night, but all eyes were on **Christina Aguilera**.

Aguilera was what some called out as extra harsh with contestant **Tony Lucca** — a fellow "Mickey Mouse Club" alum — and it reportedly led to problems with Lucca's mentor on the show, Maroon 5 frontman **Adam Levine**. "You could cut the tension with a knife," a source tells UsMagazine.com of Monday night's taping. "Adam also talks a ton of s— about Christina and makes fun of her behind her back."

▶ Aguilera

MICHAEL TRAN/GETTY IMAGES

While Christina claims it's not personal and doesn't even remember Lucca from their Disney days, another Mouseketeer isn't so sure. "**Britney** was in love with [Lucca]. Christina was in love with him. **Mylin** [Brooks] was in love with him," **Dale Godboldo** tells TMZ. "All of this ['Voice'] madness was not brought on by Tony."

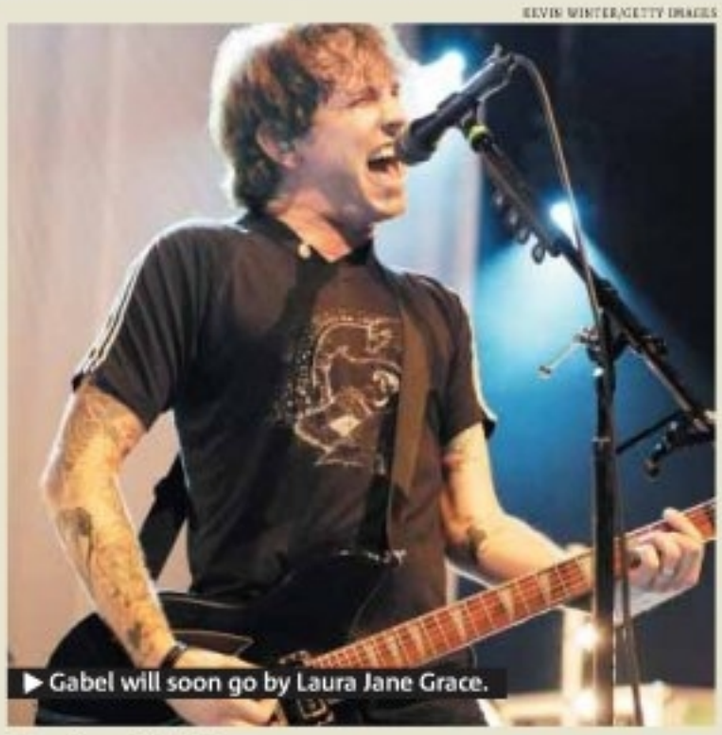
Christina reportedly apologized backstage to Lucca for the drama, but come on — this is the closest thing a child star has to walking into her high school reunion hot. If she needs to spin around in her scary "Voice" space chair and pretend not to recognize the chubby quarterback begging for approval in front of her, we say go for it.

Beyonce talks motherhood

Beyonce is enjoying motherhood so much that she's already planning to have more kids, she tells Entertainment Tonight. "I have such a full life," she says of life with **Blue Ivy Carter**. "I feel like now I know the reason that I was born."

That's the difference between Beyonce and us. We would have considered "Single Ladies" the accomplishment of a lifetime — a reason to get out of bed for at least another five years — but then she goes and creates a human.

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Gabel will soon go by Laura Jane Grace.

Against Me! singer comes out as transgender

Tom Gabel, founder and singer of punk rock group Against Me!, will soon undergo hormone treatments and begin living as a woman.

"I'm going to have embarrassing moments, and that won't be fun," Gabel says in an interview with Rolling Stone. "But that's part of what talking to you is about — is hoping people will understand, and hoping they'll be fairly kind."

Gabel will remain married to her wife **Heather**, and take the name **Laura Jane Grace**.

Members of Gaslight Anthem were quick to show support on the band's surprisingly touching Tumblr (where all posts are signed "Gossip Girl"). "So Tom's gonna be Laura now… and in 2012 I still find people on the Internet commenting on another persons life how they insult and condemn a person for his choices," they wrote. "You can't hate them, and they have the right, here in America, to make their own choices and live their lives free of prejudice. So go live, Tom."

Talking points

Another suit against Travolta

A second unidentified man has filed a $2 million sexual battery suit against **John Travolta**, according to Radar Online. The new accusation centers on a massage session in an Atlanta hotel during which a naked Travolta allegedly behaved in a sexually aggressive and forceful manner. The new accuser claims to have "substantial documentation and numerous witnesses regarding the substance of Travolta's actions," according to the lawsuit. The second man is being represented by the same lawyer who brought forward another man's accusations late last week that the actor made unwanted sexual advances during a massage. Travolta's lawyer calls the second lawsuit "as absurd and ridiculous as the first one."

CHARLEY GALLAY/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Travolta

Justin Bieber is a grad

Justin Bieber can add high school graduate to his list of accomplishments, he tells the Daily Telegraph. "I just finished high school," says Bieber, who managed to squeeze in time for classes and studying while on the road. "I passed my test. I'm free! It was hard doing school and work every day." So why was finishing school so important to the top-selling pop sensation? "[Getting my degree] was something my mom really wanted me to do, so I had to do it for her," he says.

Sambora and Richards back on

Five years after splitting up, **Richie Sambora** and **Denise Richards** are back together, they confirm to Us Weekly. And it turns out Richards' recent adoption of a baby girl helped win Sambora over again. "When she did that, it just made me fall in love with her more," he says.

Dustin Hoffman saves jogger

Dustin Hoffman jumped into action after seeing a jogger collapse in London from a heart attack, calling paramedics and staying by the man's side until he was OK, according to the Sun. "I have no memory of what happened," the man, Sam Dempster, says. "The paramedics told me I had been saved by Dustin Hoffman. It's unbelievable."

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Alec Baldwin is looking for career advice, Dolly Parton is skipping her run, Paula Abdul is absolutely against absolutes and Jim Gaffigan is having trouble with Twitter.

@alecbaldwin: When 30 Rock is over, should I: A- do a 30 Rock musical on cruise ships B- join the cast of another existing TV show. C- spin the wheel and try to make movies for a living again. D- lay down and just give up and rake leaves (which I am good at) ????

@Dolly_Parton: If I tried to jog with these boobs, I'd end up with two black eyes! Enjoy the beautiful weather!!

@JimGaffigan: It's really awkward unfollowing someone, I'm thinking of just killing them instead.

@paulaabdul: never been a big fan of absolutes like "you never.." or "they always.." or "no one will ever.." it feels so final hopeless.

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All the pretty ladies — and Jack Black

1: How adorable did **Elizabeth Banks** look at the Tuesday night premiere of "What To Expect When You're Expecting"? The answer you're looking for: So adorable.

2: We know "Up All Night" co-stars **Will Arnett** and **Christina Applegate** are just playing around here, but would you want your husband looking into those sparkly eyes? **Amy Poehler**, you're a better woman than us.

3: Jill Scott and **Janelle Monae** were posing pretty at the after-party for "VH1 Storytellers Presents: Jill Scott Live" on Tuesday night in New York.

4: After owning the red carpet at the Met Gala on Monday night, **Beyonce** kept it casual on Tuesday with **Jay-Z** for a book launch party in New York.

5: This is exactly what we expect **Jack Black** to look like in a gym. The actor was courtside at Tuesday's Lakers game.

6: We're not as in love with **Cameron Diaz**'s "What to Expect" ensemble. Good thing she looks like, you know, Cameron Diaz.

7: On Tuesday in London, **Kate Middleton** reminded the world how hard she can rock a conservative white dress.

1: SIMON RUSSELL/GETTY IMAGES 2: FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES 3: ROBIN MARCHANT/GETTY IMAGES 4: LARRY BUSACCA/WIREIMAGE 5: NOEL VASQUEZ/GETTY IMAGES 6: STEPHEN LOVEKIN/GETTY IMAGES 7: SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE

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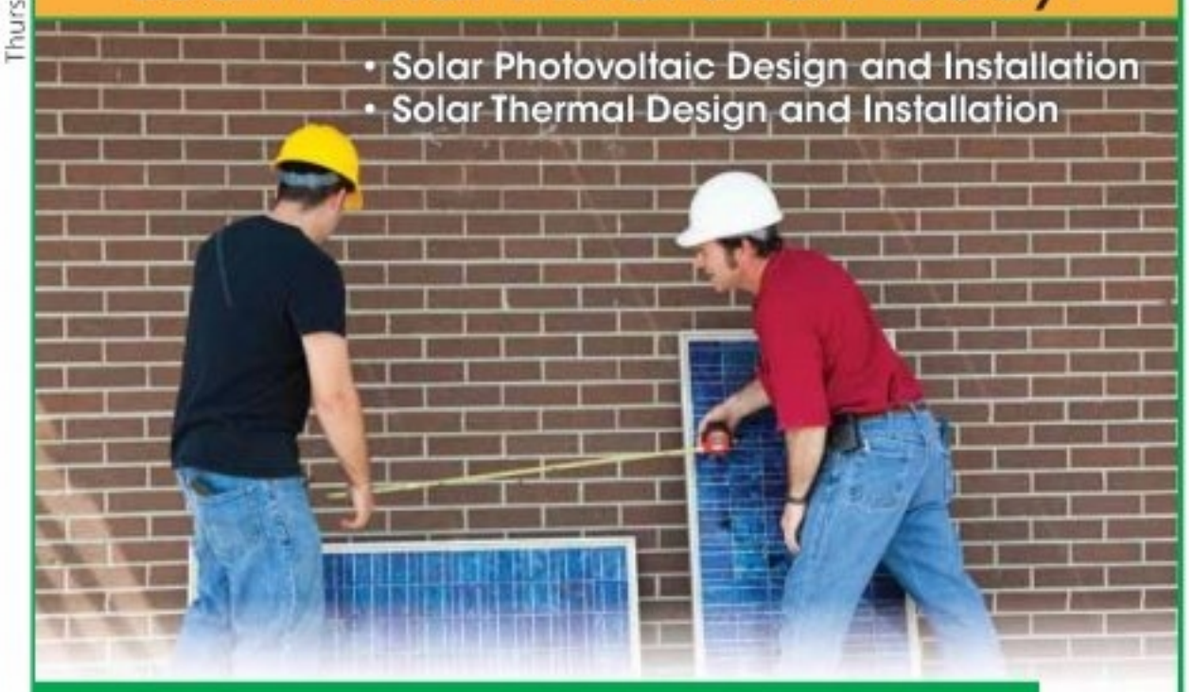

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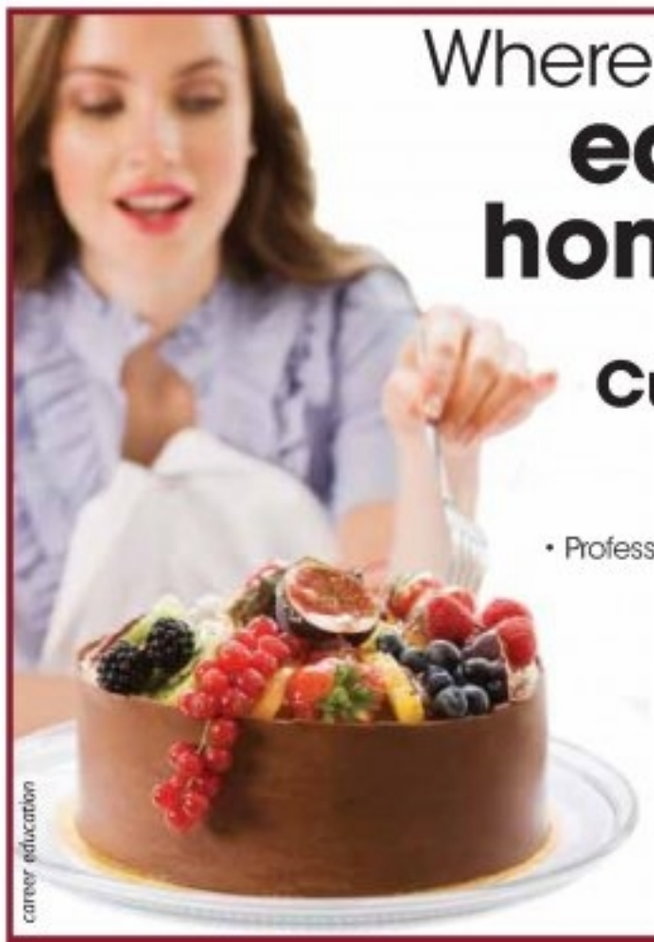

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You can't do that on podcasts

For 'This American Life Live!' in cinemas tonight, host Ira Glass is all about 'The Invisible Made Visible' This includes dancers, animation and an interactive song

Ira Glass is a touchy talker. You wouldn't necessarily know this from listening to his voice come through your radio or earbuds every week. But several times throughout a 40-minute conversation, the host of "This American Life" literally reaches out to engage, with a "whaddaya make of that?" light knee slap or an "I know! Isn't that crazy?" forearm squeeze.

But tonight, Glass is all about showing the sorts of things that can't come through speakers, as he hosts a live two-hour presentation of "This American Life" that will beam into more than 500 cinemas nationwide.

"It's a completely unnecessary extravaganza," he says, proudly, before rattling off highlights that include animations, dancers, a short film from Mike Birbiglia — with whom Glass co-wrote the upcoming feature "Sleepwalk With Me" — a reading from David Sedaris and an interactive performance from OK Go.

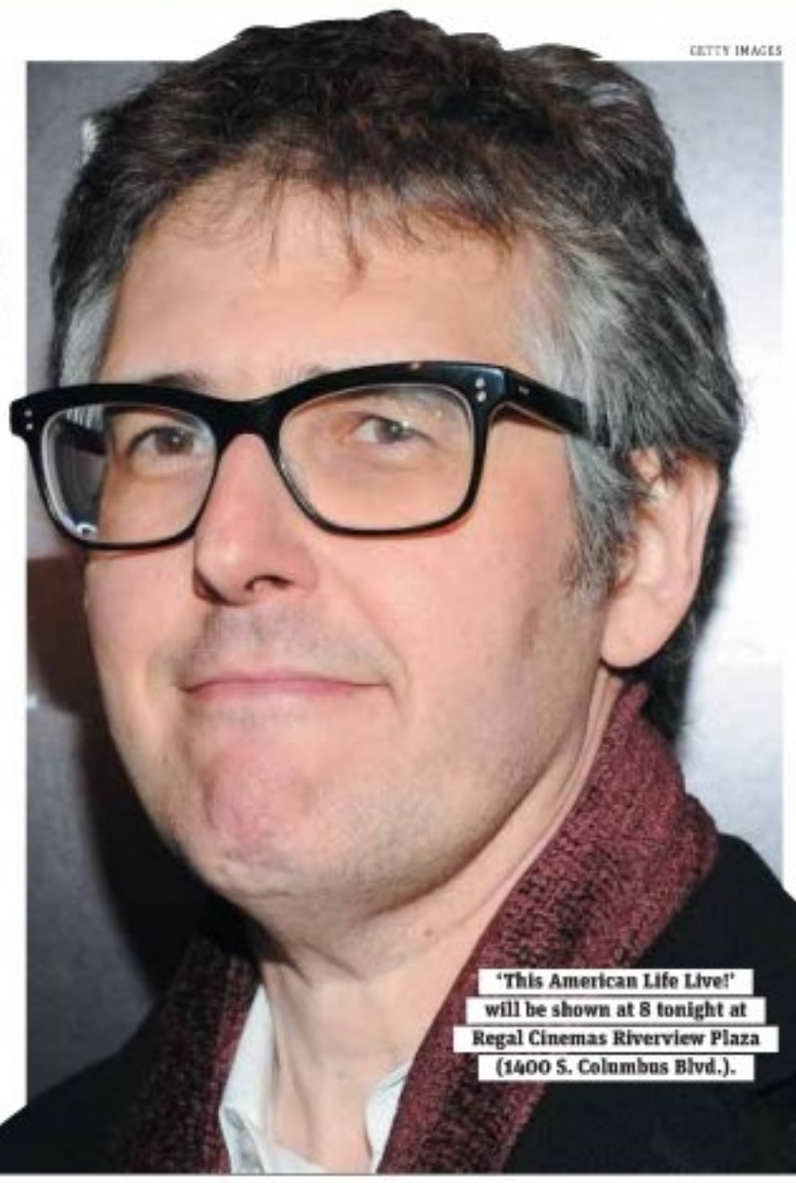
"The last time we did this, we had 50,000 people in theaters all over North America, and this time, we expect more," says Glass as he scrolls through his iPhone to share an app that was especially made for the 50,000-plus that Glass expects.

"We're going to have everyone play a song together based on musical cues coming up on the screen," he says. "So everyone will play a song along with OK Go."

Glass seems keenly aware that there might be a difference between the tech preferences of somebody who listens to "This American Life" on National Public Radio and somebody who downloads the podcast version every week.

"People who don't have a smartphone will do rhythm," he says.

GETTY IMAGES



'This American Life Live!' will be shown at 8 tonight at Regal Cinemas Riverview Plaza (1400 S. Columbus Blvd.).

'Got anything about chickens?'

The theme of tonight's show is "The Invisible Made Visible," but Glass says that wasn't the initial idea.

"The theme was going to be 'Things You Can't Do on the Radio,' but it's hard to write stories about that," he says. "All of the writers are just like, 'I don't know if I've got anything.'"

It makes sense that radio writers aren't exactly at the ready with things that can't be done on the radio, but how often does that happen when they come up empty-handed with an idea?

"That happens a lot, but we've got enough people, where if we say, 'Got anything about chickens?' somebody usually does," he says.

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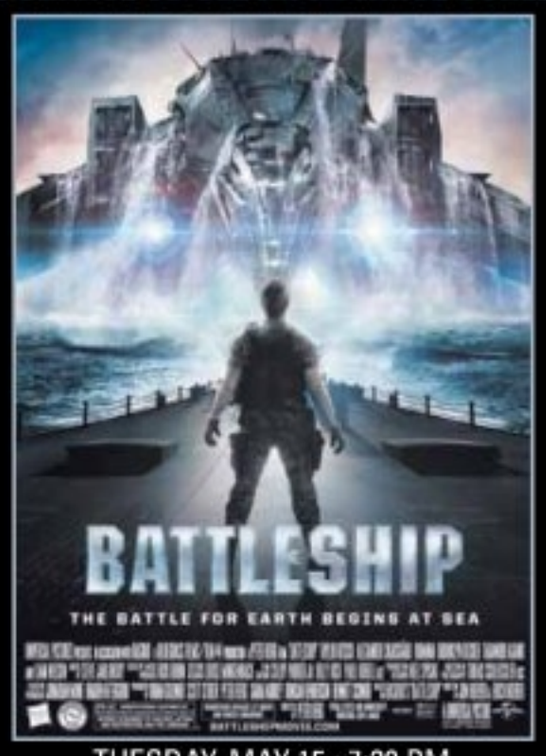

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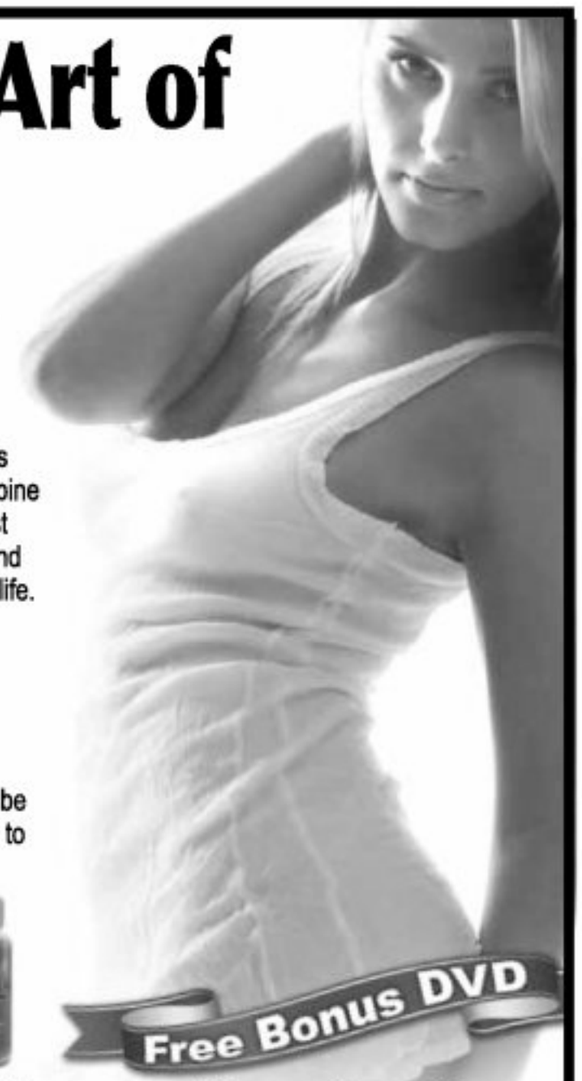

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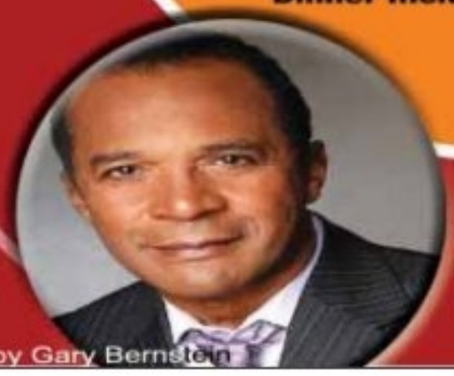

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Photo by Gary Bernstein

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10 REASONS TO HIT THE MOVIES

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▶ Johnny Depp stars as Jack White doppleganger Barnabas Collins in "Dark Shadows."

MUST-SEE:

1 'Dark Shadows'
Tim Burton reimagines the 1960s Gothic soap opera in which a vampire from the 1700s is unleashed after 200 years in a coffin. When he awakens in 1972, he seeks out his dysfunctional relatives to restore his recently diminished family name in the small town of Collinsport, Maine.

2 'The Avengers'
Sci-fi master-in-chief Joss Whedon directs a bevy of big stars as seven Marvel heroes join forces to conquer the evil Loki.

3 'The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'
Retirees travel to Jaipur, India, to live out their golden years.

4 'The Five-Year Engagement'
Jason Segel and Emily Blunt dodge obstacles en route to getting hitched.

5 'Safe'
Jason Statham stars as an ex-cage fighter attempting to save a girl from the Russian mob.

6 'The Raven'
John Cusack is Edgar Allan Poe on the trail of a serial killer who designs his murders after the author's stories.

7 'The Pirates! Band of Misfits'
The studio responsible for "Chicken Run" delivers a pirating adventure voiced by Hugh Grant and Salma Hayek.

8 'Think Like a Man'
Steve Harvey's book, "Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man," gets a screen adaptation.

9 'The Lucky One'
Zac Efron plays a war vet in search of a woman whose photo was a good luck charm.

10 'To the Arctic'
Meryl Streep narrates this nature documentary about polar bears making their way through the Arctic wilderness.

HEIDI PATALANO

TV watch list

'The Vampire Diaries'

DRAMA. Elena pines for a time when things were simpler. Girl, you're 18. Stop acting like you're 45 and go suck face with one of those hot vampire brothers who are obsessed with you. **Season finale, 8 p.m., The CW**

'The Big Bang Theory'

COMEDY. Howard gets married to Bernadette, then rockets into outer space. No, that's not a euphemism. **Season finale, 8 p.m., CBS**

'Parks & Recreation'

COMEDY. Will Leslie win the city council campaign? (Maybe!) Will President Obama attend her swearing-in if she does? (Probably not!) The votes are tallied tonight. **Season finale, 9:30 p.m., NBC**

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mydating

Are you really ready to move in together?

Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively have bought a home together. It sounds like fun, doesn't it? They met on the set of "The Green Lantern" and have been moving forward as a couple ever since. It's easy to get swept up in the romance of it all, especially the idea of playing house. But they — and anyone at their stage of the dating game — must have asked themselves: How long do you date, and how long do you wait, before you decide to become mates ... as in roommates?

There are a few points you should be aware of before becoming domestic partners, because that very term implies that you will share not just the love, but also the housework, the bills, the pet care, the lawn work, the actual square footage and whatever else goes along with cohabitating.

Talk before you start packing those boxes. Understand that making it official in that sense also brings along an accountability factor that wasn't there before, as your expectations of each other will change. Discuss how you plan to share the responsibilities — it is important to have a plan about how you are going to proceed.

Hopefully Ryan and Blake have already worked some of these details out: Their new home in Bedford, N.Y., awaits.

Shrink Wrap

DR. JANE GREER

HEALTH.METRO.US

ERIC CHARBONNEAU/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds are already playing house.

— Relationship expert **Dr. Jane Greer** *is the creator of* ***"Shrink Wrap"*** *and host of* ***"Let's Talk Sex"*** *at* ***Healthylife.net.*** *Her book,* ***"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"*** *is available nationwide.*

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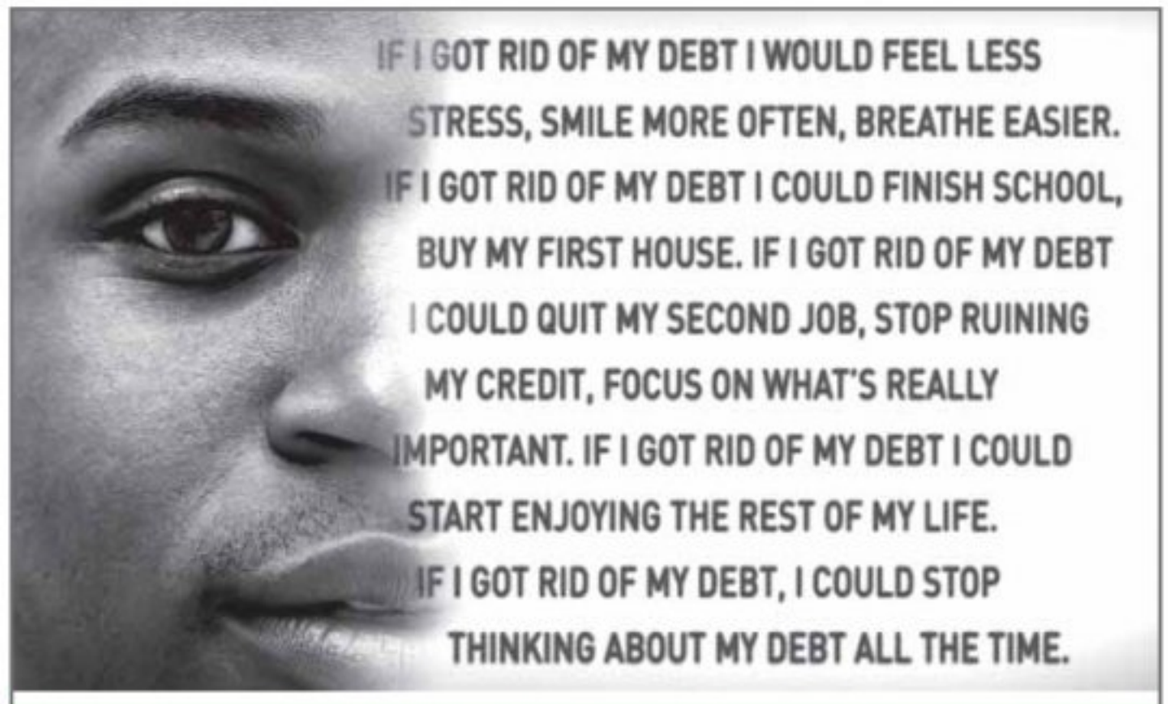
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Letters

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Readers fight back on gay marriage

RE: OUT AND PROUD AGAINST GAY RIGHTS": If gay marriage repulses you then don't have one. Otherwise, mind your own business and let the rest of society get over what most citizens see as a non-issue. **KEVIN TAYLOR, VIA E-MAIL**

I find David Bowman repulsive. I am firmly opposed to David Bowman having the legal right to marry. However, just because I personally believe these statements to be true, does not mean that I get to dictate the liberties of my fellow Americans. **S. KELLY, VIA E-MAIL**

Interracial marriage was illegal until about 50 years ago. 150 years of mindless bigotry; now that's repulsive! **JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA E-MAIL**

I am left to wonder If Mr. Bowman could be capable of any type of intelligible conversation without lacing it with hate and bigotry. It is exactly that kind of vitriolic speech that perpetuates negative stereotypes, bullying, suicides, and general homophobia — though it would appear as if he would not be alarmed by any of those things. **JOEY DAVIS, VIA E-MAIL**

Thank you, David, for sharing your repulsive feelings on love and gay marriage with us. Unfortunately, your feelings do not allow you to dictate my rights or my life. And they never will. **MICHEL SAEWERT, VIA E-MAIL**

Dick and I have been married (completely committed to each other) for 47 years. How can anyone be opposed to what we have had for so long? **BOB SIKSO, VIA E-MAIL**

I hope you see my girlfriend and I walking down the street holding hands one day, and I hope you realize that unless you take the hate out of your heart, you will never experience the love I have. **ALEXIS PIZZINO, VIA E-MAIL**

It must be hard to be an anachronism. **JOSHUA COLLIER, VIA E-MAIL**

History lesson: You should learn it first

RE: "FRENCH FELL FOR SOCIALISM STORIES": In direct counterpoint to Mr. St George, I applaud the 80 percent of the French citizens who turned out to vote out a conservative advocating for budget cuts to elect a leader who advocates taxing the rich at 75 percent and bringing the troops home this year. If we could only be so lucky we might actually have change, but c'est la vie. **COREY SAGENICH, VIA E-MAIL**

Before making political statements, you should familiarize yourself with the difference between social democracy and communism, as well as the definition of socialism. Francois Hollande is pro-capitalism and the free market, just as the United States. **LISA E LASKARIDIS, VIA E-MAIL**

Frank St George does not know the difference between philosophers, totalitarian rule and socialism. Europe has tried the austerity road that Ryan, Romney and the Republicans are pushing. It made things worse. **KATHY KOURIAN, VIA E-MAIL**

The Republican party of the U.S. is closer in policy and politics to the National Socialist Party of Germany than the Socialist Party of France. **CHARLES BOSSE, VIA E-MAIL**

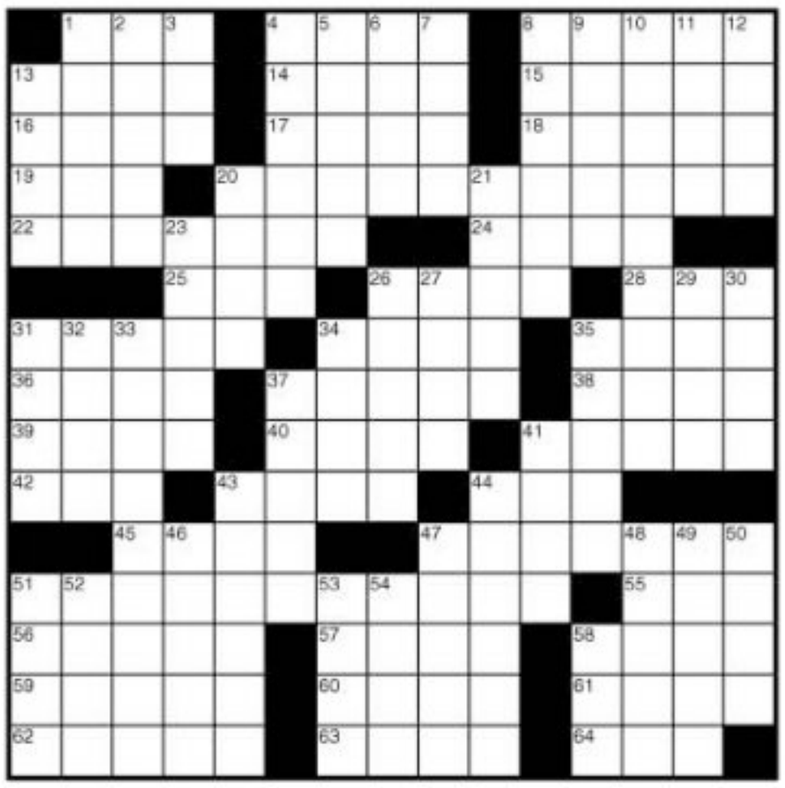
E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Although certain people may disagree, you're on the right track by viewing a certain situation from an idealist perspective as well as a logical one. It gives you the best of both worlds.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Receiving an invitation to join a certain group might be an ego booster, but before you actually join, it might be wise to find out if you're simpatico with the membership.
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Give yourself plenty of time to think about making a major change. Upon further review and consideration, you might discover your first decisions were hasty and unwise.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** It would be wise to make sure that an agreement you've been asked to accept serves the best interest of all parties involved. If there isn't parity, you, along with some others, will suffer.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** You should focus on long-term results rather than immediate ones in a business arrangement. If you resort to a mere quick fix, everyone could lose out.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If your priorities are out of order, you might accomplish a bunch of little things but fail to get that big, important something off the ground. Reverse your thinking.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Even though a number of objectives are likely to be achieved, much more could be accomplished if you first check out everything that needs to be done and make a prioritized list.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Although you'll function effectively within your own sphere of operation, you could run into some problems if you try to operate in an area over which you have no control.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** When it comes to meeting your obligations, you should do quite well. However, if you expect any pats on the back for what you accomplish, you'll be sorely disappointed.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Certain contacts you think so highly of aren't likely to be around when you want their help. However, you don't need them, even if you have yourself convinced otherwise.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Take care when it comes to financial matters, because they can be a bit tricky. Be careful you don't get into something that has strings attached, or you'll give back more than you get.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Should a well-intentioned friend turn out to be more of a hindrance than a help, don't hesitate to keep him or her at bay, but do so in a way that keeps the other person blissfully ignorant.
BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Orchestra's place
4 Blah
8 Carried on
13 "New Yorker" cartoonist
14 Mine access
15 Divert
16 Ration out
17 Comedian Imogene __
18 Rudner and Moreno
19 Way back when
20 Lose it (2 wds.)
22 Kid's question (2 wds.)
24 __ -majeste
25 Fish-to-be
26 Chicago gridder
28 Dust cloth
31 Nobody's fool
34 Skin, in combos
35 __ colada
36 Icicle holder
37 "The Merry Widow" role
38 Latch __
39 Water, in Tijuana
40 Attractive guy
41 Jockey __ Cordero
42 Sardine holder
43 Indiana steel town
44 Tampa Bay pro
45 "Misery" co-star
47 Skunk
51 Cumulonimbus
55 Mineral deposit
56 Kind of geometry
57 Sorry!
58 Wide sts.
59 Continental drifter
60 Technical sch.
61 Hibernates
62 Fine violin, briefly
63 Luau greetings
64 Forensic science tool



Down
1 Ragu rival
2 Being led (2 wds.)
3 Sock filler
4 Puget Sound port
5 Mud brick
6 Isinglass
7 Footnote abbr. (2 wds.)
8 More leery
9 Not quite right
10 Burning low
11 Mr. Morales
12 Genealogy abbr.
13 Delhi nurse
20 Part of GI
21 Andes ruminant
23 Chick __ of jazz
26 Mr. Goodman
27 Norwegian name
29 Poker stake
30 Liverpool poky
31 Chair or sofa
32 Yule trio
33 Uncle-like
34 Morose
35 Explorer __ de Leon
37 Alan Ladd film
41 "__ Lang Syne"
43 Rambled around
44 Talks big
46 Santa __ racetrack
47 RC rival
48 Witches' band
49 Rodeo locale
50 Miss Trueheart
51 Sugar amts.
52 Novelist Victoria __
53 Make muddy
54 Give an edge to
58 Say more

	3		5	4		9		
8	5							6
2						7	8	
				6		8	2	3
			7	5	2			
4	2	6		1				
	8	1						7
7							4	1
		3		2	7		5	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

				1		5		
		3	4			1	8	
		1		5		2	4	
	4		8					3
	6		2		5		9	
1					3		2	
	5	9		3		6		
	1	6			4	3		
		2		8				

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

L	O	B	O	■	A	M	I	G	O	■	P	A	P	A
A	L	O	U	■	F	E	R	A	L	■	I	B	E	X
M	E	L	T	■	R	O	A	R	S	■	N	U	K	E
A	S	O	F	N	O	W	■	B	F	R	A	T	E	S
■	■	■	L	E	S	■	■	N	E	T	■	■	■	■
P	S	H	A	W	■	F	Y	I	■	B	A	A	E	D
O	W	E	N	■	L	O	U	N	G	E	■	P	E	A
W	O	R	K	S	L	I	K	E	A	C	H	A	R	M
E	R	E	■	A	B	S	O	R	B	■	A	R	I	E
R	E	S	E	T	■	T	N	T	■	J	U	T	E	S
■	■	■	G	I	E	■	■	M	A	L	■	■	■	■
A	L	M	O	N	D	S	■	P	A	I	S	L	E	Y
Y	E	T	I	■	G	U	R	U	S	■	O	O	N	A
L	E	N	S	■	A	L	A	C	K	■	F	L	O	W
A	S	S	T	■	R	U	N	E	S	■	F	A	W	N

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Time to 'man up' as Sixers attempt to finish off Bulls

Team returns home tonight for crucial, closeout Game 6 Collins reminds players to keep emotions in check as series gets physical Young still searching for offensive touch

Basketball or steel-cage match? Watch enough of this ugly first-round series between the Sixers and Bulls, and you might not know the difference.

The depleted Bulls are trying to turn this series into a backyard brawl. They're packing defenders into the paint, throwing elbows on the sideline and pushing the Sixers off their spots. In Tuesday's Game 5 loss, the Sixers managed just 26 points in the first half. If they're going to avoid blowing a 3-1 lead, they'll need to get back to basketball.

"We're not as physical a team as they are. For us to come out and say we're going to get in there and play smash-mouth, that's not what we have to do," coach Doug Collins said yesterday after a light practice. "We have to use our speed and our quickness, and let that negate their strength and their power."

That's easier said than done. The Bulls had the No. 1 defense in the league in the regular season and are focusing on defense more without Derrick Rose (knee). Joakim Noah (ankle) appears headed for another game-time call.

"We just have to keep playing through all the fouls, play through all the aggressiveness," Thaddeus Young said. "It's the playoffs, so you just gotta man up."

The Sixers are 3-1 against the Bulls at the Wells Fargo Center this year, including big wins in Games 3 and 4 of this series.

"You have to be hungrier," Elton Brand said. "This is what we fought all season for. To be on our home court, with our home fans, for a closeout game."

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ON TV TONIGHT

Game 6: Bulls at Sixers, 7 p.m. (CSN/NBATV)

DREW HALLOWELL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Kyle Korver and Elton Brand battle for position in Game 4. The Bulls are trying to turn this series into a backyard brawl.

Sixers notebook

Where's Thad?

During the regular season, Thaddeus Young averaged 12.8 points per game as one of the Sixers' best offensive players. In the playoffs, he's at 7.0 points and went scoreless in Game 5.

"A lot of teams change their defenses to key on certain players," Young said. "I think they've been trying to take me out of the game."

Desperation games

The Sixers don't want to go back to Chicago for a Game 7. But are they desperate to get a win Thursday night and advance for the first time since 2003?

"I don't like the word desperation," Doug Collins said. "Sometimes when they're desperate, they get out of character. I want there to be a real sense of focus about what we have to do." METRO/AL

3

Signed

Birds ink three draft picks

The Eagles signed three more draft picks yesterday — all to four-year contracts.

With DE Vinny Curry, T Dennis Kelly, WR Marvin McNutt all inking four-year deals, the team has now signed four of their nine total picks.

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2005 Lexus GX-470 — DVD, 3rd Row Seat, NAVI, Leather, Wood Trim, Heated Seats — $24,999
2010 Lincoln MKS — Dual Sunroofs, Leather, SYNC Technology, NAVI, Heated Seats, Alloy Wheels — $24,999
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NFL news

All Day

Vikings stud running back **Adrian Peterson** held a workout session yesterday for the Minnesota media. He ran without a brace on his injured knee (torn ACL, torn MCL) and told reporters that he would be "very surprised" if he doesn't play Week 1.

DREAMING ABOUT DEPTH

Sometimes, what a team doesn't do speaks volumes.

We know that the Redskins weren't happy with Rex Grossman because they gave up the farm to get **Robert Griffin III**. The Browns targeted **Trent Richardson**, so we know they're really down on Montario Hardesty. But what about the moves that weren't made? There are sleepers to be found there.

Stark clarity

The Packers have an extreme pass-happy reputation, but they ranked 14th in pass attempts last season. So now that they've decided to let Ryan Grant walk, it was a surprise that they didn't use a single draft pick on a tailback. They're comfortable with **James Starks** as their clear feature back.

Saints march

Ex-Saints wideout Robert Meachem won't be a sleeper as the new speed man in San Diego. But his replacement in New Orleans, **Devery Henderson**, is suddenly trending up. The Saints used one draft pick on a receiver, fourth-rounder Nick Toon. He won't threaten Henderson's starting role.

Great Scott

After losing Cedric Benson, the Bengals went out and added BenJarvus Green-Ellis. They also drafted Dan Herron in the sixth round. Yawn. Green-Ellis has no explosion and Herron might not even make the team. **Bernard Scott** still has the most talent in this backfield.

Top MLB pickups

David Robertson

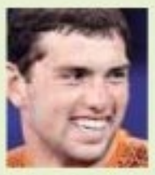
RP, Yankees
The new closer in the Bronx is actually more dominant than Mariano Rivera was. Robertson posted a 1.08 ERA in 70 games last season and hasn't given up a run in his first 13 innings this year.

Rafael Dolis

RP, Cubs
Carlos Marmol may have the best stuff in the Cubs' bullpen, but the wheels have come off. He's walked 15 batters in 10 2/3 innings, leaving the job wide open for the 6-foot-4, 215-pound Dolis.

Rookie busts

These rookies have big names, but won't get on the fantasy radar in Year 1:



1 **Andrew Luck, QB, IND** — The Colts have the NFL's worst offensive line. Reggie Wayne is declining badly and Austin Collie is always hurt. Luck has too much to overcome as a rookie.

2 **Justin Blackmon, WR, JAC** — Blackmon was the best wideout in the draft, but he's not as talented as the likes of Dez Bryant, A.J. Green or Julio Jones. That's a problem when your quarterback is the inept Blaine Gabbert.

80
Percent that Jamaal Charles (torn ACL) estimates his knee is at right now. He's expected to be ready for camp.

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Qualified Participants will receive:
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➢Study spermicide gel
➢Compensation for time and travel

For more information and to see if you qualify call
215-662-7727
or email
reproresearch@obgyn.upenn.edu

Suffering from bipolar depression?

If so, please contact CRI Worldwide to learn about a research study of an investigational bipolar depression drug.

Qualified participants must:
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- Have had past manic or mixed episodes of bipolar disorder
- Currently be in a depressed episode of bipolar disorder

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- Compensation for time and travel

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Participants may attend up to three sessions at the Monell Center.
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Mothers of 6-36 month old children using Diapers

Schlesinger Associates, an international marketing research company, is looking for Moms of children 6-36 months who use diapers to participate in a paid market research study involving a product placement. The study will take place from May 17th-June 1st. The study is for research purposes only. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

Qualified participants will receive $100 for their time.

If you think you may qualify, please call 215.982.3061 and ask for Harriet at ext. 202, Kristie at ext. 215, or Arlene at ext. 213 to be screened

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Depression

- Have you lost interest in your daily activities?
- Have you felt sad and depressed most every day for at least the past 4 weeks?
- Do you wonder if you'll ever feel good again?
- Is it hard to think or concentrate?
- Do you feel worthless or guilty?
- Lost weight or have trouble sleeping?

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Location: University of Pennsylvania campus

Penn
University of Pennsylvania

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What: **Free skin cancer screening by appointment only**
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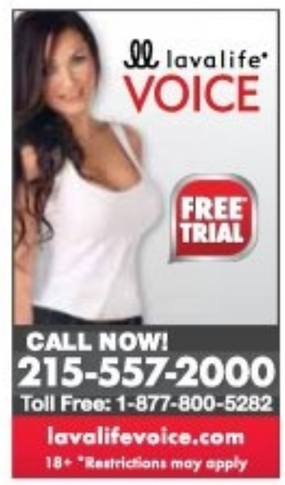

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